

railroads, especially in the United States, and (3) establishing and maintaining a library and collection of documents, reports, and other items of value to contribute to the education of all persons interested in railroading; and

Whereas the National Railroad Hall of Fame, Inc., is planning to erect a monument known as the National Railroad Hall of Fame to honor the men and women who actively participated in the founding and development of the railroad industry in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the National Railroad Hall of Fame, Inc., of Galesburg, Illinois, in its endeavor to erect a monument known as the National Railroad Hall of Fame.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 78—CONDEMNING THE REPRESSION OF THE IRANIAN BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY AND CALLING FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF IRANIAN BAHÁ'IS

Mr. LEIBERMAN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 78

Whereas in 1982, 1984, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, and 2000, Congress, by concurrent resolution, declared that it holds the Government of Iran responsible for upholding the rights of all Iranian nationals, including members of the Bahá'í Faith;

Whereas in those resolutions and in numerous other appeals, Congress has deplored the religious persecution by the Government of Iran of the Bahá'í community and has condemned the execution by Iran of more than 200 Bahá'ís and the disruptive imprisonment of thousands of others solely on account of their religious beliefs;

Whereas Iranian Bahá'ís are not permitted to elect their leaders, assemble or organize as a community, operate religious schools, or conduct other religious community activities that are guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 217(A)(III) of December 10, 1948;

Whereas the continued denial of Bahá'í property rights by the Iranian Government is demonstrated by the confiscation by the Iranian Government of a multitude of Bahá'í community and private properties;

Whereas the Government of Iran continues to deny individual Bahá'ís access to higher education and government employment, in addition to denying recognition and religious rights to the Bahá'í community;

Whereas because Bahá'ís have been banned from teaching and studying at Iranian universities since the Islamic Revolution, Bahá'ís established the Bahá'í Institute of Higher Education, or Bahá'í Open University, to provide educational opportunities to Bahá'í youth using volunteer faculty and a network of classrooms, libraries, and laboratories in private homes and buildings throughout Iran;

Whereas in September and October of 1998, officers of the Ministry of Information, the intelligence agency of the Iranian Government, arrested 36 faculty members of the Open University;

Whereas on July 19, 2002, Iranian Revolutionary Guards systematically disrupted student qualifying examinations for the Open University in 9 different districts by

videotaping the proceedings, questioning the students, and confiscating examination papers and Bahá'í books;

Whereas the use of arbitrary arrests, suspended sentences, and short-term detentions against the Iranian Bahá'ís have become widespread;

Whereas as of June 2003, 4 Bahá'ís remain in Iranian prisons solely because of their religious beliefs: 1 serving a life sentence on charges of apostasy, 1 serving 4 years on charges of participation in Bahá'í activities, and 2 sentenced to 15 years imprisonment on charges of association with Bahá'í institutions;

Whereas on October 10, 2003, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2003 to Shirin Ebadi for her efforts involving democracy and human rights, including advocating equal rights for the Bahá'í community in Iran;

Whereas the conclusions contained in the report of October 13, 2003 by the General Affairs and External Relations Council of the European Union, conveyed the continuing concern of the European Union about the violations of the Bahá'ís' right to freedom of religion, and urged the Iranian Government to comply with both the recommendations made in June 2003 by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and with the recommendations made in August 2003 by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination concerning injustice, particularly in relation to education, property rights, and employment; and

Whereas in the 2003 General Affairs and External Relations Council report, the European Union urged the Government of Iran to expedite reform on many fronts, while recognizing the meetings held in 2003 and the planned meetings that have been welcomed by the Government of Iran, to be an important step toward progress: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that Congress—

(1) continues to hold the Government of Iran responsible for upholding all the rights of its nationals, including members of the Bahá'í community, in a manner consistent with Iran's obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 217(A)(III) of December 10, 1948, and other international agreements guaranteeing the civil and political rights of Iranian citizens;

(2) condemns the repressive anti-Bahá'í policies and actions of the Government of Iran, including the denial of legal recognition to the Bahá'í community and the basic rights to organize, elect leaders, educate youth, and conduct the normal activities of a law-abiding religious community;

(3) expresses concern that individual Bahá'ís continue to suffer from severely repressive and discriminatory government actions, solely on account of their religion;

(4) urges the Government of Iran to permit Bahá'í students to attend Iranian universities and Bahá'í faculty to teach at Iranian universities, to return the property confiscated from the Bahá'í Open University, and to permit the Open University to continue to function;

(5) urges the Government of Iran to implement fully the conclusions and recommendations on the emancipation of the Iranian Bahá'í community made by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and also to comply with the recommendations made in August 2003 by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

(6) urges the Government of Iran to extend to the Bahá'í community the rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by the

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 217(A)(III) of December 10, 1948, and other international covenants of human rights, including the freedoms of thought, conscience, and religion, and equal protection of the law;

(7) calls upon the President to continue to—

(A) assert the concerns of the United States Government regarding—

(i) the violations by the Iranian Government of the rights of Iranian citizens, including members of the Bahá'í community;

(ii) the support by the Iranian Government of international terrorism; and

(iii) the efforts of the Iranian Government to develop nuclear weapons and acquire weapons of mass destruction;

(B) emphasize that the United States regards the human rights practices of the Government of Iran, including its treatment of the Bahá'í community and other religious minorities, as a significant factor in the development of relations between the United States and Iran;

(C) urge the Government of Iran to emancipate the Bahá'í community by granting those rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 217(A)(III) of December 10, 1948, and other international covenants on human rights; and

(D) cooperate with international organizations, including the United Nations and its agencies, in efforts to protect the religious rights of the Bahá'ís and other minorities through joint appeals to the Government of Iran; and

(8) calls upon the President to—

(A) initiate an active and consistent dialogue with other governments who are influential with Iran in order to persuade the Government of Iran to rectify its human rights practices; and

(B) urge the European Union to use its relationship with Iran to address and advance these fundamental human rights issues.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, it is with continued concern that my respected colleagues and I bring to the Senate's attention for the ninth time in 21 years the continuing persecution of a minority religious group in Iran, the Bahá'í, by submitting today the Bahá'í Emancipation Act of 2003.

I fervently believe that the persistent maltreatment of the Bahá'í as well as other minority religious groups in Iran epitomizes the perilous state of affairs in the country of Iran. Thus, it is with a genuine compassion for all of the people of Iran but particularly for the followers of the Bahá'í faith that my colleagues and I are submitting this resolution highlighting the continuing abuse of this segment of the Iranian population. We are urging that the Bahá'í not only remain at the center of our attention, but that we join forces with other like-minded nations to put pressure on the Government of Iran to make permanent and lasting changes that will allow not only the followers of the Bahá'í faith but all people to live in peace and prosperity in Iran. Consistent attention of the nature represented by this resolution and its predecessors is necessary in order to achieve full emancipation for this peaceful, law-abiding community.

Although it appears that the overt measures used by the Government of Iran to harass and oppress the members of the Bahá'í faith since 1979 have

diminished, research by my staff indicates that a multitude of covert practices have been sustained and in many cases heightened over the past few years. Members of the Bahá'í community continue to be subject to various forms of harassment including arbitrary arrest and short-term detainment, confiscation of their public and private property, and disruption of their educational and religious gatherings. Moreover, the Bahá'í community continues to be deprived of many rights such as the right to elect their leaders, assemble as a community, access higher education, acquire government employment, receive due legal process, and practice the faith of their preference. As of June of this year, four Bahá'í practitioners were in Iranian prisons solely because of their religious beliefs: one on charges of apostasy who is serving a life sentence, one on charges of participation in Bahá'í activities who is serving four years, and two on charges of associations with Bahá'í institutions who have been sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment. This was unacceptable in the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries and it certainly is unacceptable in the 21st century.

I would like to emphasize the idea of religious freedom because I strongly feel that each human being should have the right to choose and practice the faith of his or her choice. Iran has traditionally been designated a Country of Particular Concern in the Congressionally-mandated annual report as required by the International Religious Freedom Act. But, rather than being satisfied that the Government of Iran is reprimanded in this report, we need to take proactive steps to publicize the continued mistreatment of the Bahá'í faithful in Iran and to urge the Government of Iran to make the necessary changes. Legislation such as this is an important first step, but we must also work with others, including the European Union, to push for this objective. This legislation urges that the Administration do just that.

I would also like to take this opportunity to bring to the Senate's attention two related pieces of legislation, both of which I have joined as a cosponsor. The first is S. Res. 244 submitted by Senator BOXER that congratulates Shirin Ebadi for winning the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize and commending her for a lifetime of work promoting democracy and human rights. Shirin Ebadi is a very courageous woman who has risked her life to advocate for universal human rights and on many occasions specifically advocated equal rights for the Bahá'í community in Iran. I commend her global efforts and encourage the spreading of her convictions in order to attain a world of equal rights for all.

The second related piece of legislation that I am co-sponsoring is S. Con. Res. 73 submitted by Senator FEINSTEIN that expresses Congress's deep concerns over Iran's apparent efforts to de-

velop nuclear weapons in contravention of its Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty obligations and urging international pressure on Iran to abandon its nuclear weapons program. I am aware of the progress that has been made in recent days with the Iranian government's statements of intended cooperation with both the International Atomic Energy Agency's request that Iran sign an additional protocol to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the recent negotiations involving the European Union but I remain wary of their actual intentions and I believe that we should not rest until the words that have been spoken have been followed up with concrete action.

Iran needs to be aware that it must make significant changes in the way it treats its own population and in the manner in which it conducts itself internationally if it wants to become a respected member on the world stage. These requests include but are not limited to cooperating with the European Union and potentially the United Nations, dealing appropriately with the infiltration of suspected terrorists and criminals along their border, halting all forms of terrorist support, cooperating with the U.S. and others on suspected terrorists and intelligence in conjunction with the global war on terror, and especially to provide human rights for each man, woman, and child in Iran regardless of creed or color. Iran must alter their enduring ways in order to earn international respect and to create better lives for all Iranians. A world where Iran is a respected and integral participant, where its inhabitants can co-exist and pursue happiness without constraint is not beyond our grasp but it will take continued focus and determination. I urge passage of the Bahá'í Emancipation Act of 2003 and recommend this administration to use all of the tools in its diplomatic toolbox to work through the United Nations, the IAEA, and with our friends and allies to strongly advise the government of Iran to exploit its full potential as a member of the international community.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 2030. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1904, An act to improve the capacity of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands aimed at protecting communities, watersheds, and certain other at-risk lands from catastrophic wildfire, to enhance efforts to protect watersheds and address threats to forest and rangeland health, including catastrophic wildfire, across the landscape, and for other purposes.

SA 2031. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. REID, and Ms. CANTWELL) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2032. Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2800, making appropriations for foreign oper-

ations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2033. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. HARKIN, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1904, An act to improve the capacity of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands aimed at protecting communities, watersheds, and certain other at-risk lands from catastrophic wildfire, to enhance efforts to protect watersheds and address threats to forest and rangeland health, including catastrophic wildfire, across the landscape, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2034. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1904, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2035. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2036. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2037. Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1904, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2038. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2039. Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2040. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1904, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2041. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. SANTORUM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1904, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2042. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2043. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2044. Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1904, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2045. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2046. Mr. COCHRAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1904, supra.

SA 2047. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. LEAHY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2800, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

SA 2048. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2800, supra.

SA 2049. Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2800, supra.

SA 2050. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. STEVENS) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2800, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2030. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by